

Remarks

Applicants have carefully the Office Action dated June 23, 2004. Claims 1-57 are pending.

In the Office Action, the Examiner required an election of species between the species in figures 1-4, the species in figure 5A, the species in figure 5B, the species in figures 5C-6E, the species in figures 7A-7B, and the species in figures 8A-8E. Applicants hereby elect without traverse to prosecute the species corresponding to figures 5C-6E. Applicants assert that claims 1-6 and 8-57 read on this species.

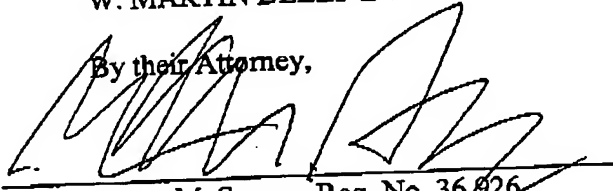
Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested. It is respectfully submitted that the claims are now in condition for allowance, issuance of a Notice of Allowance in due course is requested. If a telephone conference might be of assistance, please contact the undersigned attorney at (612) 677-9050.

Respectfully submitted,

W. MARTIN BELEF ET AL.

By their Attorney,

Date: Aug. 18, 2004


Glenn M. Seager, Reg. No. 36,926
CROMPTON, SEAGER & TUFTE, LLC
1221 Nicollet Avenue, Suite 800
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403-2420
Tel: (612) 677-9050